4a. If using the Assurance Gold Salmonella Enzyme Immunoassay, transfer 0.1 ml pre-enrichment broth to 10 ml RV medium and transfer another 1.0 ml of pre-enrichment broth to 10 ml TT broth. Incubate in a water bath 5-8 hours at 42 °C (107.6 °F). Incubation of the RV medium and TT broth in the water bath is termed the selective enrichment process. Following selective enrichment, transfer and combine 1.0 ml TT broth and 0.5 ml RV medium into a single tube containing 10 ml of prewarmed [42 °C (107.6 °F)] TSB + n broth. Incubate in a water bath 16-20 hours at 42 °C (107.6 °F). Continue as described in this kit's instructions for (c) raw foods.

4b. If using the VIP Assay for Salmonella, transfer 0.1 ml preenrichment broth to 10 ml RV medium and transfer another 1.0 ml of preenrichment broth to 10 ml TT broth. Incubate in a water bath 18-24 hours at 42 °C. Incubation of the RV medium and TT broth in the water bath is termed the selective enrichment process. Following selective enrichment, transfer and combine 0.5 ml of TT broth and 0.5 ml RV medium into a single tube containing 10 ml prewarmed [42 °C (107.6 °F)] TSB+DNP+n broth. Incubate in a water bath 5-8 hours at 42 °C (107.6 °F). Continue as described in this kit's instructions for (c) raw foods.

**B. Sprouts** - Thirty 50 g analytical units of sprouts were collected for Salmonella analysis. Aseptically weigh out a 25 g subsample from each analytical unit and transfer each subsample to a sterile blending jar (or stomacher bag). Add 225 ml buffered peptone water plus novobiocin (BPW + n). Blend the 25 g sprout subsample with 225 ml BPW + n for 2 min. Repeat procedure for remaining twenty-nine analytical units. 1. The thirty 25 g sprout subsamples may be analyzed by either of the following two options: Option A:

Each 25 g/225 ml blended sprout homogenate is poured into a 500 ml Erlenmeyer flask, or equivalent container, and analyzed individually. Option B:

Fifteen of the thirty 25 g/225 ml blended sprout homogenates are poured into a 6 L Erlenmeyer flask, and analyzed collectively. Repeat with the remaining 15 blended sprout homogenates. Thus, each sample consists of two 375-g composites.

2. Allow flasks to stand for 60 min at room temperature. Mix well and determine pH with test paper. Adjust pH, if necessary, to 6.8 + 0.2 with sterile 1 N NaOH or 1 N HCL.

3. Incubate flasks without shaking for 18-26 hours at 35-37 °C (95–98.6 °F). Each flask is considered to contain preenrichment broth.

4a. If using the Assurance Gold Salmonella Enzyme Immunoassay, transfer 0.1 ml pre-enrichment broth to 10 ml RV medium and transfer another 1.0 ml of pre-enrichment broth to 10 ml TT broth. Incubate in a water bath 5-8 hours at 42 °C (107.6 °F). Incubation of the RV medium and TT broth in the water bath is termed the selective enrichment process. Following selective enrichment, transfer and combine 1.0 ml TT broth and 0.5 ml RV medium into a single tube containing 10 ml of prewarmed [42 °C (107.6 °F)] TSB + n broth. Incubate in a water bath 16-20 hours at 42 °C (107.6 °F). Continue as described in this kit's instructions for (c) raw foods.

4b. If using the VIP Assay for Salmonella, transfer 0.1 ml preenrichment broth to 10 ml RV medium and transfer another 1.0 ml of preenrichment broth to 10 ml TT broth. Incubate in a water bath 18 24 hours at 42 °C. Incubation of the RV medium and TT broth in the water bath is termed the selective enrichment process. Following selective enrichment, transfer and combine 0.5 ml of TT broth and 0.5 ml RV medium into a single tube containing 10 ml prewarmed [42 °C (107.6 °F)] TSB+DNP+n broth. Incubate in a water bath 5-8 hours at 42 °C (107.6 °F). Continue as described in this kit's instructions for (c) raw foods. [FR Doc. 99-28016 Filed 10-25-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

**Health Care Financing Administration** 

[Document Identifier: HCFA-R-0298]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Health Care Financing Administration, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The

necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

Type of Information Collection Request: New; Title of Information Collection: Evaluation of New Medicare Members of Medicare+Choice Plans: Form No.: HCFA-R-0298 (OMB# 0938-New); Use: The objective of this survey is to understand the special information needs of new Medicare members, their sources of information, their preferred distribution channels, their understanding of the traditional Medicare program and their understanding of their particular +Choice plan, and the impact National Medicare Education Program activities may have on new members' decisions to choose a +Choice plan or change their plan; Frequency: On occasion; Affected Public: Individuals; Number of Respondents: 3000; Total Annual Responses: 3000; Total Annual Hours: 1212.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access HCFA's Web Site address at http://www.hcfa.gov/ regs/prdact95.htm, or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and HCFA document identifier, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 60 days of this notice directly to the HCFA Paperwork Clearance Officer designated at the following address: HCFA, Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards, Attention: Julie Brown, Room N2-14-26, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

Dated: October 18, 1999.

## John Parmigiani,

Acting, HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.

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